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April 23, 1999

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Doug Jensen, Reclamation Specialist

RE: Site Inspection, Redmond Minerals Inc., South RCR Salt Mine, M/039/002, Sevier/Sanpete County, Utah

Date of Inspection: April 12, 1999
Time of Inspection: 1230
Conditions: Warm and Clear
Participants: Ronald Bosshardt, Redmond Minerals; Arjun Ram, Consultant; Tom Munson and Doug Jensen, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: Site inspection

We arrived at the mine and met Arjun Ram and Ronald Bosshardt, who accompanied us on a tour the facilities.

After the drive through the processing area, we went to SM-2 (Salt Pit) to view the interim work that is being done at this time. The South portion of this pit is being backfilled with waste products from around the site. This area is presently partially backfilled. In viewing the pit, there was evidence of a maintained road entering the pit and accessing a ventilation portal in the bottom of the pit at the North end. This has been labeled as a historic area and is not slated for reclamation, although Ron Bosshardt indicated that work will be done to lessen the overall slope angles. A variance has been given by UDOGM to leave the highwalls in this pit.

From this point we were driven to view the excavation for the new mine (NM-1). The area being developed is an incline into a slot trench 300 to 400 feet long and 200 to 250 feet wide. Ron indicated that one lift of salt had been mined from the top of the salt deposit that had been exposed by this trench. They are now preparing to start developing a portal which they indicated would eventually join up with the workings presently being operated in SM-1. In this area the overburden appeared to be in berms and placed in areas around the crest of the slot trench.

Next we toured past the salt waste piles SW-2, 3 & 4. These piles are located in an old drainage area. No effort has been made to harvest the growth medium before the dumps were placed there. Although Redmond plans to remove these piles and reclaim this area, the material in

these piles show signs of leaching, thus contaminating what growth medium there was immediately beneath these piles.

We then passed GP-1 (gravel pit) and GD-2 (garbage dump). There were materials stored at GD-2. These areas are to be reclaimed.

We then visited CP-1 (clay pit) where Redmond indicated they planned to recontour and seed the pit area. We were able to see that there was work being done on Clay Hill which was to the northeast of the clay pit. Material is being pushed off the top of the hill to expose the clay; again there is no evidence of any effort to remove any growth medium before the material is being pushed.

CM-5 (clay mine) and another clay hill was visited next. This area is not presently scheduled to be reclaimed, although the area has not been completely eliminated from the possible reserves. The value of the clay hills in the area could change as economics and supply change. If there is any future work in these areas these areas would need to be considered in the bonding.

CM-1 & 8 and CW-1 & 2 and SW-1 (salt waste) were the next stop. These areas are going to be reclaimed with the waste piles being pushed into the clay pits and seeded.

We next viewed the SM-1 (salt pit) and again the bottom of the pit has a maintained road into the main underground portal of Redmond's underground workings. This pit is in the area of the old salt mill working which predates any mining controls. This area of the salt mill shows no volunteer growth (even weeds) on the waste piles. SM-1 is also labeled as an historic area and, as such, no reclamation is scheduled. A variance has also been issued by UDOGM for the highwalls in this pit.

The brine ponds were below this area, these ponds are still being used when precipitation events deposit any water into SM-1, it is pumped out of SM-1 and into the brine pits. These ponds are essentially used for evaporation areas for this water. There is a salt crust on the surface and some vegetation on the fringe areas.

CM 2 & 3 and OB-3, 4 & 5 were next on the tour. These areas are slated to be reclaimed in the near future with the approval of the permit. The overburden piles will be pushed into the mine pits and areas recontoured and seeded.

We then drove past the clay mill and warehouse. Also in this area is CM-6 and CP 2, 3 & 4, which are also slated to be reclaimed. The tour then passed the third brine pit (BP-3). This pit is similar to the first two and is in a planned reclamation area.

Redmond has petitioned to allow the buildings on the site to remain after the life of the mine has run out, for agricultural purposes. Allowing these buildings to remain would release Redmond from having to bond these areas.

During the tour it was noted that the vegetation that does exist in the area is indeed sparse. A combination of clays, salts and minimal precipitation contribute to that problem. Some fair stands of brush exist in some drainage bottoms. Care should be exercised to harvest these areas before any mining activity takes place; this includes the placing of waste piles. These growth medium piles should be placed in an area somewhat removed from the active mine areas to assure that there will not be any contamination.

jb
cc: Ronald Bosshardt, Redmond
Arjun Ram, Consultant
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